

REMARKS

I. Status of the Application

Claims 1-8 were pending in the application prior to this amendment. Claims 1 and 3-8 stand rejected. The Examiner objected to claim 2 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

With this amendment, claims 1 and 7 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced by this Amendment.

II. Response to Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 1 and 7 because of informalities.

Applicant submits that claims 1 and 7 currently recite “vibration detection axes directions, the vibration detection axes being”. Applicant believes no amendment is necessary and respectfully requests that the objection to claims 1 and 7 now be withdrawn.

III. Response to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 and 3-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,343,188 to Morofuji (hereafter, “Morofuji”).

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims in view of the amendments now presented herein. For example, independent claim 1 has been amended for further clarification to recite, *inter alia*:

“A vibration compensation apparatus comprising:...

a compensation unit that compensates vibration in vibration compensation axes directions, the vibration compensation axes being two orthogonal axes that make an angle with said vibration detection axes due to deviation of alignment between said angular velocity detector and said compensation unit; and

a conversion unit that converts the angular velocity signals expressed in the vibration detection axes directions obtained by said angular velocity detector or vibration compensation signals based on the angular velocity signals into angular velocity signals or vibration compensation signals expressed in the vibration compensation axes directions using equations for rotation transformation based on said angle.”

Applicant respectfully submits that Morofuji does not teach or suggest “a compensation unit that compensates vibration in vibration compensation axes directions, the vibration compensation axes being two orthogonal axes that make an angle with said vibration detection axes due to deviation of alignment between said angular velocity detector and said compensation unit”, as recited in amended claim 1. Applicant notes that amended claim 1 recites similar features to allowable claim 2. Independent claim 7 has been amended to recite similar features to amended claim 1 as described herein.

By contrast, Morofuji, in order to obtain optimum driving characteristics of the vibration correction unit, corrects a deterioration in vibration correction characteristics which is caused by mechanical degradation, such as shaft friction or deformation caused by the temperature and time change of vibration correction unit. Morofuji merely discloses a calibration function which detects the frequency characteristic, the driving limit, and the initial position from the response characteristics obtained when a predetermined test driving signal is supplied to the VAP, and corrects the offsets of the characteristics of the VAP.

However, Morofuji does not teach or suggest correcting an angle between the axes of the VAP and the vibration correction unit.

Therefore, Applicant submits that independent claim 1 as amended is distinguishable over Morofuji for at least the reasons discussed above. For reasons similar to those described above with respect to independent claim 1, independent claim 7 is also believed to be distinguishable over Morofuji.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Applicant has chosen in the interest of expediting prosecution of this patent application to distinguish the cited documents from the pending claims as set forth above. However, these statements should not be regarded in any way as admissions that the cited documents are, in fact, prior art.

Applicant has not specifically addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicant submits that the independent claims from which they respectively depend, either directly or indirectly, are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Accordingly, the dependent claims also are in condition for allowance. Applicant, however, reserves the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary.

Applicant believes that the application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

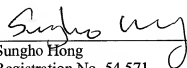
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5229. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5229. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: January 7, 2008

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